

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/629,581

07/30/2003

Sin-Gu Kang

6192.0143.D1

6203

7590

11/13/2006

McGuireWoods LLP
 Suite 1800
 1750 Tysons Boulevard
 McLean, VA 22102

EXAMINER

CHOW, DOON Y

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/629,581 | Applicant(s) KANG, SIN-GU | |
| | Examiner Dennis-DooH Chow | Art Unit 2629 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 29,30,34 and 35 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 23-27 and 32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 28, 31 and 33 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION***Double Patenting***

1. Claims 23-28 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,621,547.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they claim a similar invention with different wordings.

For example:

| Claim 23 of the present claims. | Claims 1 and 4 of the patented claims |
|---|--|
| 23. A module for determining a driving signal timing for a liquid crystal display (LCD) device, comprising: a flexible base substrate; a gate-driving signal input line formed on one side of the base substrate that applies a gate-driving signal to the gate-driving signal input line; a gate-driving IC mounted on the flexible base substrate to be connected to the gate-driving signal input line; and a plurality of gate-driving signal output lines formed on the flexible base substrate that are connected to output terminals of the gate driving IC, | 1. A module for determining a driving signal timing for a liquid crystal display (LCD) device, comprising: a flexible base substrate; a gate-driving signal input line formed on one side of the base substrate so that a gate-driving signal is applied to the gate-driving signal input line; a gate-driving IC mounted on the base substrate to be connected to the gate-driving signal input line, the gate driving IC adapted to modify linearly a level of the gate-driving signal inputted to a first gate line through a last gate line of a plurality of gate lines formed on a TFT substrate when allowing the applied gate-driving signal to be diverged in a parallel way so as to input it to the plurality of gate lines, and then, output the linearly modified gate-driving signal through output terminals thereof; and a plurality of gate-driving signal output lines formed on the base substrate in such a manner that the plurality of gate-driving signal output lines are connected to output terminals of the gate driving IC, the plurality of gate-driving signal output lines adapted to allow the gate-driving signal outputted from the output terminals of the gate-driving IC to have a linear level and to be applied to the plurality of gate lines. |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

24 recite the limitation "the signal transmitting line". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 23, 27 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tamai et al. (6456271).

Regarding to claim 23, Tamai discloses a module for determining a driving signal timing for a liquid crystal display (LCD) device, comprising: a flexible base substrate (5, Figs. 6 and 10; tape film, col. 9, lines 62-65); a gate-driving signal input line formed on

Art Unit: 2629

one side of the base substrate that applies a gate-driving signal to the gate-driving signal input line (Figs. 6 and 10); a gate-driving IC (3, Figs. 6 and 10) mounted on the flexible base substrate to be connected to the gate-driving signal input line; and a plurality of gate-driving signal output lines formed on the flexible base substrate that are connected to output terminals of the gate driving IC (Figs. 6 and 10).

Regarding to claim 27, Tamai further discloses the flexible base substrate has a signal input line (Vcc, Figs. 6 and 10) connected to the gate-driving IC and a signal transmitting line separated from the signal input line (GCK, Figs. 6 and 10).

Regarding to claim 32, the gate-driving signal outputted from the output terminals of the gate-driving IC inherently includes a linear level.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 24-26 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 27-28 and 31-33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Art Unit: 2629

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

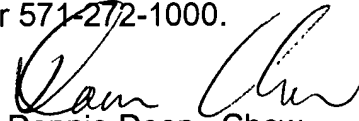
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis-Doon Chow whose telephone number is 571-272-7767. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

Art Unit: 2629

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on 571-272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Dennis-Doon Chow
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2629

D. Chow
November 10, 2006